



SCAPPOOSE FIRE DISTRICT

P.O.Box 625 SCAPPOOSE, OREGON 97056

REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCAPPOOSE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019, SCAPPOOSE FIRE STATION, SCAPPOOSE, OREGON.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present: R. Cairns, A. Kriek, D. Sorenson, D. Graham, and D. Grant.

ALSO PRESENT: Fire Chief Greisen, D/C Pricher, D/C Marks and J. Salisbury.

CALL TO ORDER: President Cairns called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and led the flag salute.

LEXIPOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE PRESENTATION – The board listened to a 15 minute telephone and PowerPoint presentation on this service from Jeff Hopper. A subscription to Lexipol provides a state-specific fire policy manual online that is continuously updated in context of legal and social changes. It includes training at the beginning plus monthly training bulletins. There is an accountability feature that tracks which employees have read the policies and monthly bulletins. The document can be edited by the Chief to include existing District policies and delete unnecessary policies built into the manual. It costs \$11,000 for each district the first year which includes set-up. It is \$5,000 per year for each district after that. The subscription includes a mobile app so policies can be reviewed wherever staff is. A procedure manual is also available. Chief Greisen said SRFD and CRFR plan to budget for the policy manual.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING President Cairns opened the hearing for public comment. There were no comments. President Cairns closed the hearing.

AUDIENCE: Lt Nielson, FF Ahlers, FF Chaffeur, and 2 high school students from Scappoose High School citizenship class.

CONSENT AGENDA: President Cairns opened discussion on the consent agenda items. Mr. Graham moved approval of the consent agenda and Mr. Grant seconded. Mark Reed is a former volunteer who is currently training as a single role paramedic. The bill from Bay Photos paid to mount district photos on metal. Chief Pricher explained the tire sensor replacement in his truck at Harvest Chevrolet in Yakima while he was at class. The TVF&R union dues come from monthly staff payroll deductions. Mr. Grant asked about the internet charges from CenturyLink. The District had to get static IP addresses and this increased the bill.

The motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

CHIEFS' REPORTS:

Systems Design – This report shows a rolling year of monthly collection totals. The board members discussed the large amount of charges that are disallowed by the insurance companies.

March Safety Minutes – Chief Greisen said that we had not heard anything more from OSHA.

Fire Chief Report – Chief Greisen reported on the first quarterly Traffic Incident Management (TIM) meeting. Sheriff Dickerson gave Columbia County fire districts the authorization to call for towing at accident scenes. This allows the highway to be opened sooner. Statistics show that for every 1.5 minutes that the highway is closed, the risk of a related crash increases. Previously only law enforcement could call for the tow. The tow companies have agreed not to charge either law enforcement or fire districts for the tow. Multnomah County's system rotates tow truck operators, which sometimes means waiting 45 minutes for the tow when there is another operator within 10 minutes.

Training Chief Report – Chief Marks reported that retention is good for this academy group; only one from each district has dropped out. The order for the Class A Burn Cell has been placed. (Note: The cost is charged to Training because it pays for the District's access to the Training Center and does not include ownership interest of the Burn Cell.)

Operations Chief Report – Next year we will finish replacing all the Husqvarna chain saws with STIHL so that all are in good working order and compatible with CRFR.

Fire Marshal Report – We are working together with the 5 cities to set standards for food cart safety. Cart operators are given safety information on propane and other aspects.

Chief Greisen said currently we only have ethanol coming through the County – usually about 3 unit trains per month. There is interest in adding other products, but the permit and set-up requirements are time-consuming and expensive.

Pressure chart recorders are used to test sprinkler systems. It documents whether the system maintains pressure over the required amount of time.

Purchase of Extrication Tools & Airbag System – The District's existing tools are outdated, mismatched, and incompatible with CRFR. We had planned to budget this purchase for next fiscal year but had a recent safety incident with a hydraulic tool. Since we have budget room this year, we decided to move up the purchase. Mr. Kriek made a motion to purchase the extrication tools and airbag system as quoted for \$45,300. Mr. Grant seconded.

The motion to purchase extrication tools and airbag system carried unanimously.

Purchase of Command Truck – Chief Greisen said that the shift chiefs were going to share a vehicle. However, on March 18, there were multiple fires in different areas. If

there was only one shared vehicle, it would have delayed the responses. We are purchasing a truck instead of a suburban so that turnouts are not off-gassing carcinogens inside the vehicle. The price on the proposed vehicle is about \$1,100 more than state bid, but a state bid would have added 4 or 5 months to the process. Mr. Graham made a motion to purchase the 2019 Ford Command truck and related equipment for up to \$50,500. Mr. Grant seconded the motion.

The motion to purchase the 2019 command truck carried unanimously.

Letter of Commendation – Chief Smythe described the multiple fires on March 18 and 2 ambulance calls when none were available to transport. The nearest one came from Cornelius Pass to St. Helens. The Letters of Commendation will go in the files of those staff who met that day's many challenges. District vehicles will be equipped with more EMS response supplies to assist with situations like this.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Awards & Incentives Committee – nothing to report

B. Management Team Committee – 2 hardship cases totaling \$3,377 were presented. President Cairns recommended them for waiver. It was moved by Mr. Sorenson and seconded by Mr. Grant to forgive the debts.

The motion to forgive the patient EMS debts carried unanimously.

C. Planning Committee – No meeting.

D. Oversight Committee – The Committee chose Special Districts Association of Oregon for chief recruitment services. Meeting with SDAO at 5 pm on Monday the 15th at the Scappoose Station. The IGA is complete except for adding the Duty Chief position description. It will probably be presented for approval at the May board meeting. The appendices have been structured so that they can be changed without altering the IGA. The Request for Proposal for IGA has been issued. The deadline for responses is April 26th.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget Discussion: As previously mentioned, the 2019-20 budget includes appropriations for 3 grants. It also includes 2 full-time single role EMTs. The part-time EMTs have helped assure that all 3 ambulances can go out on most days. However, it is very time-consuming to train that many people, especially since call volume is variable, and staffing is unpredictable since part-time employees usually have other jobs as well. We will continue to employ part-time EMTs to cover for full-time staff absences.

B. 2019-01 Supplemental Budget Resolution This resolution is required by local budget law. Grant funds arrived late and the General Fund had to make a loan to the Grant Fund to prevent a negative fund balance. This resolution repays the General Fund for that loan. Mr. Graham moved to adopt Resolution 2019-01. Mr. Kriek seconded.

The motion to adopt Resolution 2019-01 carried unanimously.

C. 2019-02 Resolution Updating Fire Prevention Division Specifics Chief Pricher explained that the reporting paperwork and covering 300 square miles of territory to inspect driveways, roads and Fire & Life Safety plan checks requires far more staff time than the District can afford with taxpayer revenue. Owner failures to complete required tasks mean that 68% require re-inspections. The proposed Exhibit C specifies fees for these activities. The goal is to have the groups causing the work to pay for the work. The proposed fees are less than those charged by nearby counties. The revenue will be used to pay additional overtime expense for additional staff to perform inspections. Following board discussion, Mr. Graham moved to pass Resolution 2019-02. Mr. Grant seconded.


The motion to approve Resolution 2019-02 carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE: No comment.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: President Cairns reminded everyone that the next meeting is Thursday May 2 at 7:00 PM. The Budget Committee meeting starts at 7:00 and the board meeting follows after the budget meeting is closed.

ADJOURNMENT: President Cairns adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Signed this 2nd day of May, 2019.



Ron Cairns, President



David Grant, Secretary